



WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report August 2005

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1. WSDOT Aviation's Local Airport Aid Grant Program Facilitates \$5.7 Million in State Airport Projects

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation announces that \$5.7 million in state, federal and local match funds will be used for 24 different airport improvement projects in the state. A total of 21 public use airports in Washington State will benefit from this round of grants. Through its Local Airport Aid Grant Program, WSDOT awarded approximately \$1.2 million in state grants to fund these airport projects. Of that amount WSDOT used \$88,493 to leverage over \$3.4 million in federal funds.

"It makes a huge difference that we are able to leverage millions of federal dollars by using a relatively small amount of state funds," said Stan Allison, WSDOT Manager of Aviation Operations. "It enables crucial projects at smaller airports and helps us to maintain a safe and efficient state aviation system."

Forty-five percent of the projects are focused on airport pavement maintenance. Eighty-six percent of those paving projects will go to smaller airports that are not eligible for federal funding. The specific project breakdown is as follows:

- 7 Pavement
- 3 Maintenance
- 2 Planning
- 8 Safety
- 1 Security
- 3 Runway Safety

2005 Local Airport Aid Grants – First Round	
	2005
Airports Awarded Grants	21
Projects	24
Pavement Projects	\$751,228.15
Safety Projects	\$333,882.08
Maintenance, Security & Planning Projects	\$144,428.93
Runway Safety Projects	\$7,500.00
Total WSDOT Local Airport Aid Grants	\$1,237,039.16

This is the first of two rounds of Local Airport Aid grant awards expected during the 2005-2007 biennium. WSDOT anticipates announcing its second round of grant awards in April 2006. Detailed information on the grant awards and project types is available at: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/news/2005/AirptAidGrants05-07.htm>.

2. WSDOT Visits Aviation Summer Camp in Vancouver

WSDOT Aviation was pleased to visit the Al Coupe Aviation Summer Camp at the Pearson Air Museum in Vancouver, WA. The two-week camp invites kids ages 9-16 to explore the vast world of aviation. The young campers learn how to read aeronautical charts, plan flights, and actually fly a route using the Microsoft Flight Simulator application. Kids also have the opportunity to go on airplane rides offered by the Experimental Aircraft Association's Young Eagles Program. WSDOT met with Camp Director, Sandra Peters, to discuss ways the state can help with outreach and curricula. Peters noted the camp's primary goal is to introduce kids to the numerous career opportunities available in aviation before they enter high school or college. That way, if campers become interested in pursuing an aviation-related career, they can choose high school or college courses that may help them achieve that goal. About 14 kids attend the camp each week, and many of them have never flown before. After taking his first ever flight, one youth remarked, "My stomach felt like it was going to come out of my mouth. It was really cool!"



3. WSDOT Temporarily Closes Lake Wenatchee State Airport to Support Firefighting Efforts

WSDOT Aviation temporarily closed Lake Wenatchee State Airport from August 1 – 19 due to a rapidly spreading wildfire in the area. The airport was used as a firebase to

support over 150 emergency personnel and 7 helicopters. A temporary flight restriction (TFR) was also in effect near the airport.

WSDOT Aviation reminds pilots flying throughout the state this summer to check with their local Flight Service Station for current Notices to Airmen (NOTAMS) and TFRs before each flight.

TFR information is available at the [National Interagency Airspace Web site](#). To contact the Flight Service Station, please call 1-800-WX-BRIEF.

View more information about [Lake Wenatchee State Airport](#).

4. NOAA Needs Pilots' Help With Killer Whale Sightings

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries and the Southern Resident Killer Whales need your help! NOAA Fisheries is interested in learning more about where the whales spend their time when not in Puget Sound, particularly during the period from November to June.

Reporting your sightings from along the coasts of Washington, Oregon, Northern California, and British Columbia can help make a difference.

If possible, please take photographs. Photos taken from the side of the animal that clearly show the dorsal fin and saddle patch are most useful. Individual whales can be identified by their unique markings on their dorsal fin and saddle patch (please see picture).

If you see killer whales please contact NOAA Fisheries with the following:

1. Time, date, location (latitude and longitude if possible).
2. Total number of whales.
3. Total number of male whales (very tall dorsal fin).
4. Whales with unusual marks (scars, fin deformities, etc.).
5. Direction the whale(s) are traveling.

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www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/features/kwsightings.cfm

